



**Frederick County
Government
Frederick, Maryland**

News Release

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Abraham departs as division director . . .

COMMISSIONERS ELIMINATE MANAGEMENT SERVICES DIVISION TO IMPROVE OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCIES

FREDERICK, MD – In order to increase the efficiency of citizen and employee services, as well as to achieve budgetary savings, the Frederick Board of County Commissioners today announced the elimination of the Management Services Division, reorganization of its departments and subsequent departure of the division's director, Austin Abraham. These changes are effective immediately.

Mr. Abraham has served as division director since September 2001, overseeing 100 employees in facility maintenance and services; managing the maintenance and scheduled replacement of vehicle fleet services; planning for new facilities and facility renovations; promoting energy conservation, and providing safe, clean and attractive facilities for employees and citizens.

Board President Blaine Young commended Mr. Abraham for his service to the county, saying, "Austin has served very well in his capacity as director and has successfully coordinated many challenging facility projects. We are grateful for his careful attention to all county facilities and our fleet operations. During his tenure, he has helped achieve fuel and energy consumption savings, opened and renovated important facilities and managed many building projects with direct impact to our citizens and employees. We thank him for his service and wish him the very best in his future endeavors.

"The Board of County Commissioners has continued to look for ways to streamline county government operations, and the restructuring of the Management Services Division will accomplish that goal with no employee layoffs or reductions in salaries. This restructuring will provide savings of over \$160,000 and allow the county to achieve additional savings for our taxpayers by moving forward with plans to place a county facility on the market. The board continues to work to put the county in the best financial position of strength to deal with the economy and continued state and federal budgetary impacts."

(more)

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The county commissioners reassigned the departments and functions of the division to the County Manager's Office, Division of Finance, Division of Parks and Recreation (DPR) and Division of Public Works (DPW). The reorganization will also allow these divisions to internally restructure in order to better align staff with services without increasing costs.

The following is an overview of changes due to the reorganization:

- The director of facility services will be transferred to DPW to manage the Office of Property Management.
- The assistant director of facility services will be transferred to DPR to manage Custodial Services.
- The security access specialist will be transferred to the County Manager's Office as security supervisor, supervising facility security guards.
- The county warehouse manager will transfer to the Purchasing Department (Finance Division) until the consolidation with the Frederick County Public Schools' warehouse is executed.
- The Facility Maintenance Department and Fleet Services Department will transfer to DPW.
- Administrative and project manager positions will be transferred to previously mentioned divisions.

Consolidating the Management Services Division departments with other county divisions will also allow the Interagency Information Technologies (IIT) Division to streamline operations and improve efficiencies. Later this year, the division will vacate its current location at 117 East Church Street and move to Winchester Hall, 12 East Church Street, where a number of the division's operations are already located. The IIT building is next door to the former Board of Education building, which is currently on the market, making the location of two facilities more attractive to potential purchasers.

When the Board of County Commissioners took office in December 2010, there were approximately 2,355 regular employees in Frederick County Government. Through reorganizations, consolidations, attrition and reductions in the workforce due to the economy, there are approximately 2,130 regular employees who are doing more with fewer resources in their responsibilities to serve the citizens of the county. The highest number of regular employees working in Frederick County Government was approximately 2,500 in 2008.

In consideration of the personal impact that the division reorganization will have on employees, before the county issues a press release, the employees affected are notified in advance. This notification process provides information to the public and media representatives promptly, while treating the employees with respect and consideration for their personal interests.

For additional information, contact County Manager David Dunn at 301-600-3190 or via e-mail at ddunn@FrederickCountyMD.gov.

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